

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-19 (cancelled).

20. (currently amended) A method of attaching a sheet material to a structure, said method comprising:

placing sheet material against at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;

providing a plurality of magnetic holding devices each comprising a housing including at least one magnet and having a substantially flat magnetic surface on or in close proximity to said magnet;

~~placing sheet material against at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;~~

temporarily placing said magnetic holding devices with said substantially flat magnetic surface against the sheet material to temporarily hold the sheet material in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure ~~so that,~~

fixedly attaching the sheet material can be secured to the structure using attachment means while the sheet material is temporarily held in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure; and

removing the magnetic holding devices from the sheet material, the sheet material remaining permanently attached to the structure by said attachment means.

21. (original) A method according to claim 20 wherein each magnetic holding device comprises an elongate member including one or more magnets.

22. (original) A method according to claim 21 wherein the elongate member houses a plurality of magnets located at spaced intervals along the elongate housing.

23. (original) A method according to claim 20 wherein the structure has a plurality of spaced frame members of ferromagnetic material, and the sheet material is held between the magnetic

surfaces of the holding devices and magnetically receptive surfaces of the frame members.

24. (original) A method according to claim 23 wherein at least some of the magnetic holding devices are provided with at least one retaining member having a part with a retaining surface extending from the housing at an angle to the substantially flat magnetic surface for engagement with a surface of one of the frame members extending at an angle to the magnetically receptive surface of the frame member.

25. (currently amended) A magnetic holding device comprising an elongate member including at least one magnet and having a substantially flat magnetic surface on or in close proximity to the magnet, whereby the elongate member is adapted to hold material between said magnetic surface and a magnetically receptive surface;

wherein at least one rotatable retaining member is provided on the elongate member, the retaining member having a retaining surface, wherein the retaining member is freely rotatable between an extended position in which the retaining surface ~~extends~~ projects outwardly from the elongate member generally perpendicularly to the substantially flat magnetic surface for retaining the device on a member of a building framework, and a retracted position in which the retaining surface extends substantially in the longitudinal direction of the elongate member and does not project outwardly from the elongate member, wherein at said positions and during said rotation the retaining surface remains within a single plane.

26. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the retaining member is integral with the elongate member of the magnetic holding device.

27. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the retaining member is attached to the elongate member of the magnetic holding device.

28. (previously presented) A magnetic holding device according to claim 27, wherein the retaining member is adjustable having a lip part defining the retaining surface, movable between an extended position in which the lip part presents a retaining surface

extending outwardly from the elongate member generally perpendicularly to the substantially flat magnetic surface, and a retracted position.

29. (previously presented) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the elongate member comprises a housing containing at least one pair of magnets at longitudinally spaced apart positions of the elongate member.

30. (previously presented) A magnetic holding device according to claim 29, wherein the housing comprises an elongate rod having retaining members provided proximate each end of the rod.

31. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 29, wherein the housing is of tubular form for mounting on a rod or tube, the housing having a pair of magnet housing members extending outwardly from the tubular housing.

32. (previously presented) A magnetic holding device according to claim 31, wherein retaining members in the form of sleeves with end lip parts are mounted on the magnet housing members.

33. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 28, wherein ferromagnetic material is provided between said at least one pair of magnets within the housing.

34. (previously presented) A magnetic holding device comprising an elongate housing member containing at least one pair of magnets at longitudinally spaced apart positions of the elongate housing member, and ferromagnetic material extending from one magnet in the pair of magnets to the other magnet in the pair within the housing.

35. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the elongate member is made of wooden or plastics material.

36. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the at least one magnet is mounted on a surface of the elongate member.

37. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the at least one magnet is mounted within a recess in the elongate member, with a surface of the magnet forming the substantially flat magnetic surface of the device.

38. (original) A magnetic holding device according to claim 25, wherein the at least one magnet is housed within the elongate member with a magnetic surface of the magnet being in close proximity to a surface of the elongate member forming said substantially flat magnetic surface of the device.

39. (new) A method of attaching a sheet material to a structure, said method comprising:

placing sheet material against at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;

providing a plurality of magnetic holding devices each comprising an elongate member including at least one magnet and having a substantially flat magnetic surface on or in close proximity to the magnet, and wherein at least one of the devices includes at least one rotatable retaining member provided on the elongate member, the retaining member having a retaining surface;

temporarily placing said magnetic holding devices with said substantially flat magnetic surface against the sheet material to temporarily hold the sheet material in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;

freely rotating the retaining member on at least one of the devices from a retracted position, in which the retaining surface extends substantially in the longitudinal direction of the elongate member and does not project outwardly from the elongate member, to an extended position in which the retaining surface projects outwardly from the elongate member generally perpendicularly to the substantially flat magnetic surface for retaining the device on a member of a building framework, wherein at said positions and during said rotation the retaining surface remains within a single plane;

fixedly attaching the sheet material to the structures, using attachment means while the sheet material is temporarily held in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure; and

removing the magnetic holding devices from the sheet material, the sheet material remaining permanently attached to the structure by said attachment means.

40. (new) A method of attaching sheet material to a structure, said method comprising:

placing sheet material against at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;

providing a plurality of magnetic holding devices each comprising an elongate housing member containing at least one pair of magnets at longitudinally spaced apart positions of the elongate housing member, and ferromagnetic material extending from one magnet in the pair of magnets to the other magnet in the pair within the housing;

temporarily placing said magnetic holding devices with said at least one pair of magnets against the sheet material to temporarily hold the sheet material in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure;

fixedly attaching the sheet material to the structures, using attachment means while the sheet material is temporarily held in position between the magnetic surfaces of the holding devices and said at least one magnetically receptive surface of the structure; and

removing the magnetic holding devices from the sheet material, the sheet material remaining permanently attached to the structure by said attachment means.

41. (new) A method according to claim 20, wherein the sheet material is wallboard.

42. (new) A method of claim 39, wherein the sheet material is wallboard.

42 (new) A method according to claim 40, wherein the sheet material is wallboard.